

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract at page 19 as follows:

ABSTRACT

[Digital transmission method of the error-correcting coding type]

*a1* ~~The present invention concerns a~~ A digital transmission method of the error-correcting coding type which ~~comprises~~ includes, before a step of transmitting on a channel, a coding procedure ~~comprising~~ including at least one puncturing step, and, after ~~said the~~ transmission step, a decoding procedure ~~comprising~~ including at least one depuncturing step, ~~said the~~ coding procedure, applying a given coding scheme, generating a coded information item representing, with a certain redundancy, ~~said the~~ useful information item and ~~said the~~ decoding procedure estimating said useful information item by correcting transmission errors. According to the invention, ~~this~~ This digital transmission method also ~~comprises~~ includes a step of observing the transmission conditions and a puncturing scheme selection step (2) for selecting, according to ~~said the~~ at least one parameter, an optimum performance puncturing scheme amongst a plurality of predetermined puncturing schemes, the overall efficiency of ~~said the~~ coding step and ~~said the~~ puncturing step being a constant efficiency. The method also ~~comprises~~ includes a coding scheme adaptation step (3) which checks whether ~~said the~~ puncturing scheme selected by ~~said the~~ puncturing scheme selection step (2) leads to the fill puncturing of at least one output information item of a coding step, amongst a plurality of coding steps whose association in parallel forms ~~said the~~ coding scheme, and which, if applicable, modifies ~~said the~~ coding scheme so that ~~said the~~ coding step is no longer used.

Fig. 1